

Ritchie's Fabulae Faciles

Latin Text with Facing Vocabulary and
Commentary

Second edition

Geoffrey Steadman

Ritchie's Fabulae Faciles
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Second Edition

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Ritchie's Fabulae Faciles

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Preface to the 2nd Edition

This book should be on the bedstand of every intermediate Latin student. This volume is a graded reader of Latin stories, which the modern author Francis Ritchie composed in order to give students additional practice before reading Caesar's *Gallic War*. The book includes the myths of Perseus, Heracles, Jason and the Argonauts, and Ulysses; and the entire text is divided into 100 sections of Latin which are a lengthy paragraph in length. Although Ritchie assumes that readers know all five declensions, pronouns, and active and passive verbs from the first story about Perseus, he does not introduce the indirect discourse or subjunctive mood until the middle of the account of Heracles and gerunds and gerundives until Jason and the Argonauts. Ritchie's purpose is to provide readers with an opportunity to master simple Latin grammar and morphology before they encounter more complex constructions in the later stories, and he does so while presenting students with a thoroughly engaging storyline.

The Latin text was first published by Ritchie in 1884 in *Fabulae Faciles: A First Latin Reader*. In 1903, John Kirtland published a revised edition entitled *Ritchie's Fabulae Faciles: A First Latin Reader*, in which he modified the Latin text and added grammatical notes. Kirtland's book remained the standard until 1991, when Gilbert Lawall, Stanley Iverson, and Allan Wooley published *Fabulae Graecae: A Revised Edition of Ritchie's Fabulae Faciles*. While the first two books are no longer under copyright, *Fabulae Graecae* is still in paperback.

To complement the corresponding vocabulary in each lesson, I have added a core running list of words occurring 7 or more times in the introduction and recommend that readers review this list before they read each lesson. An alphabetized list of the same core words is found in the glossary. Together, this book has been designed in such a way that, once readers have mastered the core vocabulary list, they will be able to rely solely on the Latin text and commentary and not need to turn a page or consult dictionaries as they read.

The grammatical notes are designed to help intermediate readers read the text, and so I have passed over literary and historical explanations in favor of short, concise, and frequent entries that focus on grammar and morphology. Assuming that readers complete their initial study of Latin with varying levels of ability, I draw attention to all subjunctive and accusative-infinitive constructions, identify unusual verb forms and noun constructions, and in general explain aspects of the Latin that they should have encountered in their initial review.

One of the virtues of this commentary is that it eliminates time-consuming dictionary work. While there are occasions where a dictionary is necessary for developing a nuanced reading of the Latin, in most instances any advantage that may come from looking up a word is outweighed by the time and effort spent in the process.

As an alternative to dictionary work, I recommend that readers review the running core word list (7 or more times) before they begin each story and continue to review the relevant core words daily until they are thoroughly learned. Many of the remaining, less frequent words can be learned in context by reading and rereading the stories. Altogether, I am confident that readers who follow this regimen will learn the vocabulary more efficiently and develop fluency more quickly than with traditional dictionary work.

If you would like to suggest revisions to this commentary, please see the website and email address below. All criticisms are welcome, and I would be very grateful for your help.

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How to Use this Commentary

Research shows that, as we learn how to read in a second language, a combination of reading and direct vocabulary instruction is statistically superior to reading alone. One of the purposes of this book is to encourage active acquisition of vocabulary.

1. Review and master the core vocabulary before each reading.

The core vocabulary (words occurring 7 or more times) are included (1) in the running vocabulary in the preface, (2) in the alphabetized list in the glossary, and (3) on the first page where the word occurs in the text. Although a substantial number of core vocabulary words come within the first few pages of the commentary, readers have encountered most of these initial core words in first-year Latin and should be able to master the list quickly.

2. This is a graded reader which imitates Caesar's vocabulary, idiom, and syntax over time.

There is a notable increase of difficulty with each of the four myths, and so it is not uncommon for teachers to assign each of the four myths on different occasions to complement textbook readings in second and third year Latin rather than read through all myths continuously. Below is a sample of grammar topics and the page number where the constructions first occur:

perfect passive participle (6)	imperfect subjunctive (25)	pluperfect subjunctive (29)
deponent (17)	cum clauses (25)	indirect discourse (31)
relative clauses (19)	purpose clauses (29)	indirect questions (38)
gerund (21)	indirect commands (29)	gerundives (55)
present participle (22)	result clauses (29)	passive periphrastic (66)

Perseus offers excellent practice with perfect active and passive stems (3rd and 4th principal parts). Heracles offers additional practice and later adds imperfect subjunctive and indirect discourse. Jason and the Argonauts uses pluperfect subjunctive, absolutes, gerunds, and gerundives frequently. Lastly, Ulysses offers practice for all constructions with an even more challenging sentence structure.

3. Read actively and make lots of educated guesses

Develop the habit of making educated guesses as you read. The purpose of the graded reader is to provide you with an opportunity to encounter challenging constructions, particularly subjunctive clauses and indirect discourse, so frequently that you cannot help but to develop proficiency in identifying and translating them. Make educated guesses as you read. If you guess correctly, the commentary will reaffirm your knowledge of the Latin. If you answer incorrectly, you will become more aware of your weaknesses and therefore more capable of correcting them.

4. Reread a passage soon after you have completed it.

Repeated readings not only help you commit Latin to memory but also increase your ability to read the Latin as Latin. This additional repetition will strengthen your ability to recognize vocabulary, forms, and syntax quickly, bolster your confidence, and provide you with the context as you read a new selection.

5. Skip the occasional episode to keep your momentum and spur your interest.

This book of myth is meant to be enjoyed. Enjoy it! Remember, it is not necessary to read all 100 sections. Ritchie includes the occasional side story that will not keep your attention and sometimes the sections are unnecessarily long. Skip the occasional episode and keep your interest level high.

Running Core Vocabulary (7 or more times)

This list includes all 340 words in Ritchie's *Fabulae Faciles* that occur seven or more times arranged in a running list. The number on the left of the dictionary entry indicates the **page** on which the word first appears. The number on the right of the entry indicates how many times the word occurs in the commentary. These same dictionary entries are found in an alphabetized list in the glossary and, just once, on the page where the word first occurs.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 01 ā, ab, abs : from, away from; by, 72 | 02 brevis, -e : short, brief, 15 |
| 01 appellō (1) : call (by name), name, 12 | 02 capiō, -ere, cēpī, captum : take, capture, seize, 14 |
| 01 autem : however, but; moreover, 80 | 02 cōstituō, -ere, -uī, -ūtum : decide, 36 |
| 01 coniciō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectum : throw (together), 13 | 02 dō, dare, dedī, datum : give; grant, allow, 41 |
| 01 cum : with (abl.); when, since, although, 196 | 02 domus, -ūs f. : home, household, 11 |
| 01 dē : from, down from; about, concerning, 29 | 02 excipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptum : take out, receive, 9 |
| 01 deus, -ī m. : god, 19 | 02 faciō, -ere, fēcī, factum : make, do, 89 |
| 01 dormiō, -īre, -īvī : sleep, 8 | 02 finis, -is m./f. : end; <i>pl.</i> border, territory, 12 |
| 01 enim : for, indeed, 77 | 02 grātia, -ae f. : gratitude, favor, thanks, 10 |
| 01 et : and; also, even, 284 | 02 ille, illa, illud : that, those, 84 |
| 01 filius, -ī m. : son, 10 | 02 īnsula, -ae f. : island, 20 |
| 01 hic, haec, hoc : this, that, these, 218 | 02 libenter : gladly, willingly, 12 |
| 01 igitur : therefore, then, accordingly, 71 | 02 lītus, lītoris n. : shore, beach, 18 |
| 01 in : in (abl.), into (acc.), 271 | 02 omnis, -e : every, all, 96 |
| 01 includō, -ere, -ūsī, -ūsum : enclose, close in, 7 | 02 Polydectēs, -is m. : Polydectes, 7 |
| 01 ipse, ipsa, ipsum : -self; the very, 50 | 02 post : after, behind (acc.); afterward, next, 32 |
| 01 is, ea, id : he, she, it; this, that, 224 | 02 postquam : after, when, 57 |
| 01 Iuppiter, Iovis m. : Jupiter, 8 | 02 prō : before, in front of, for (abl.), 9 |
| 01 magnōpere : greatly, 15 | 02 quīdam, quaedam, quoddam : a certain, 50 |
| 01 magnus, -a, -um : great, large; important, 93 | 02 reperiō, -īre, repperī, repertum : find, 8 |
| 01 mare, -is n. : sea, 15 | 02 rēx, rēgis m. : king, 44 |
| 01 māter, mātris f. : mother, 9 | 02 tamen : nevertheless, however, 99 |
| 01 nārrō (1) : narrate, relate, 7 | 02 tantus, -a, -um : so great, so much, so large, 55 |
| 01 necō (1) : kill, 9 | 02 tempus, -poris n. : time, 33 |
| 01 ōrāculum, -ī n. : oracle, prophecy, 11 | 02 videō, -ēre, vīdī, vīsum : see, 49 |
| 01 Perseus, -ī m. : Perseus, 26 | 03 annus, -ī m. : year, 18 |
| 01 puer, -ī, m. : boy, 16 | 03 at : but; mind you, 27 |
| 01 sum, esse, fuī, futūrum : be, 417 | 03 atque : and, 21 |
| 01 suus, -a, -um : his, her, its, their (own), 84 | 03 caput, capitis n. : head, 20 |
| 01 tempestās, -tātis f. : storm, tempest, weather, 17 | 03 cōsiliū, -ī n. : plan, advice; council, 23 |
| 01 tum : then, at that time, 73 | 03 dīcō, -ere, dīxī, dictum : say, tell, speak, 17 |
| 01 volō, velle, voluī : want, wish, be willing, 23 | 03 dīmīttō, -ere, -mīsī, -missum : send away, dismiss, 8 |
| 02 accipiō, -ere, accēpī, acceptum : receive, accept, 26 | 03 ego, mihi, mē, mē : I, 9 |
| 02 ad : to, toward; near; for, 187 | 03 habitō (1) : inhabit, live, 17 |
| 02 addūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ctum : lead to, bring, 8 | 03 iam : now, already, 31 |
| 02 agō, agere, ēgī, āctum : drive, lead, spend, 13 | 03 ibi : there, 21 |
| 02 appellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsum : drive (to), 14 | 03 maneō, -ēre, mānsī : stay, wait, 9 |
| 02 beneficiū, -ī n. : benefit, favor; kindness, 8 | 03 multus, -a, -um : much, many, 36 |

- 03 **quī, quae, quod (quis? quid?)**: who, which, that;
quod: because, 345
- 03 **referō, -ferre, -tulī, relātum**: report, bring back, 17
- 03 **sē**: himself, herself, itself, themselves, 115
- 03 **tū, tibi, tē, tē**: you, 10
- 03 **virtūs, -ūtis f.**: courage, manliness, excellence, 10
- 03 **vīta, -ae, f.**: life, 9
- 04 **Apollō, Apollinis m.**: Apollo, 7
- 04 **audiō, -īre, -īvī, -ītum**: hear, listen to, 22
- 04 **dēmōnstrō (1)**: show, demonstrate, 13
- 04 **diū**: for a long time, long, for long, 12
- 04 **ē, ex**: from, out from, out of, 106
- 04 **etiam**: also, even, 17
- 04 **frūstrā**: in vain, 12
- 04 **horribilis, -e**: horrible, 11
- 04 **induō, -ere, -uī, indūtum**: put on, 8
- 04 **locus, -ī m. (pl. lōca)**: place, region, 51
- 04 **manus, -ūs f.**: hand, 16
- 04 **nātūra, -ae, f.**: nature, 7
- 04 **omnīnō**: altogether, wholly, entirely, 11
- 04 **per**: through, over, 23
- 04 **pervenīō, -īre, -vēnī**: come through, arrive, 19
- 04 **pēs, pedis m.**: foot, 8
- 04 **prīmus, -a, -um**: first, 16
- 04 **quaerō, -ere, -sīvī, -sītum**: search for, ask, 20
- 04 **speciēs, -ēī f.**: sight, look, appearance, aspect, 13
- 04 **tandem**: finally, at last, 27
- 04 **ubi**: where; when, 55
- 04 **veniō, -īre, vēnī, ventum**: come, go, 72
- 05 **causa, -ae f.**: reason, cause, 31
- 05 **commoveō, -ēre, -mōvī, -mōtum**: move, upset, 14
- 05 **dum**: while, as long as, until, 35
- 05 **ēvādō, -ere, ēvāsī, ēvāsūm**: go out, escape, 10
- 05 **excitō (1)**: excite, wake up, 8
- 05 **fugiō, -ere, fūgī**: flee, hurry away, 9
- 05 **homō, -inis m./f.**: person, people, human, 21
- 05 **īra, -ae f.**: anger, 12
- 05 **modus, -ī m.**: way, manner; *adv. modo*, only, 38
- 05 **occidō, -ere, -cīdī, -cīsūm**: kill, cut down, 14
- 05 **rēs, reī, f.**: thing, matter, affair, business, 83
- 05 **saxum, -ī n.**: rock, 15
- 05 **somnus, -ī m.**: sleep, 14
- 05 **statim**: immediately, 28
- 05 **tergum, -ī n.**: back (body part), hide, 8
- 05 **ūnus, -a, -um**: one, 14
- 06 **animus, -ī m.**: mind, attention, spirit; courage, 18
- 06 **dolor, -ōris m.**: pain, grief, 16
- 06 **filia, -iae f.**: daughter, 20
- 06 **imperō (1)**: order, command, 13
- 06 **iubeō, -ēre, iussī, iussum**: order, 17
- 06 **mittō, -ere, -mīsī, missum**: send, let go, 18
- 06 **mōnstrum, -ī n.**: monster, 26
- 06 **nōmen, nōminis, n.**: name, 12
- 06 **ob**: on account of (acc.), 13
- 06 **occupō (1)**: occupy, seize, 8
- 06 **ōlim**: once (upon a time), formerly, 10
- 06 **perīculum, -ī n.**: danger, risk, 31
- 06 **trādō, -ere, -didī, -ditum**: hand over or down, 20
- 07 **appropinquō (1)**: come near, approach, 8
- 07 **celeritās, -tātis f.**: speed, quickness, 7
- 07 **certus, -a, -um**: fixed, sure, 11
- 07 **contendō, -ere, -ī, -tum**: hasten, strive, fight, 11
- 07 **dēdūcō, -ere**: lead or bring down, launch, 10
- 07 **diēs, -ēī m./f.**: day, time, 46
- 07 **expōnō, -ere, -suī, -situm**: set out, explain, 7
- 07 **expectō (1)**: wait for, await, look out for, 15
- 07 **gerō, -ere, gessī, gestum**: wage; carry on, wear, 18
- 07 **lacrima, -ae f.**: tear, 10
- 07 **nec**: and not, nor, 10
- 07 **parō (1)**: prepare, 21
- 07 **puella, -ae f.**: girl, 8
- 07 **simul**: at the same time; **simul ac**, same time as, 10
- 07 **stō, -āre, stēfī, stātum**: stand, 8
- 07 **subitō**: suddenly, 19
- 07 **teneō, -ēre, tenuī, tentum**: hold, keep, 13
- 07 **timor, -ōris m.**: fear, 15
- 07 **tōtus, -a, -um**: whole, entire, 14
- 08 **aqua, -ae f.**: water, 11
- 08 **corpus, corporis, n.**: body, 19
- 08 **gladius, -ī m.**: sword, 10
- 08 **gravis, -e**: heavy, serious, severe, 16
- 08 **impetus, -ūs m.**: attack, assault, 9
- 08 **intereā**: meanwhile, 7
- 08 **mora, -ae f.**: delay, hesitation, 14
- 08 **mox**: soon, 19
- 08 **neque**: and not; **neque...neque**: neither...nor, 27
- 08 **posteā**: after this, afterwards, 7
- 08 **rūrsus**: again, backward, back, 7

- 08 **sentīō, -īre, sēnsī, sēnsūm**: feel, perceive, 15
 08 **sine**: without, 19
 08 **tollō, -ere, sustulī, sublātum**: raise, lift up, 10
 08 **undique**: from everywhere, from all sides, 7
 08 **vulnerō (1)**: wound, 7
 09 **afficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum**: afflict, affect, 12
 09 **apud**: among, at the house of, before (acc.), 9
 09 **dēpōnō, -ere, -suī, -situm**: put down/aside, 9
 09 **exanimātus, -a, -um**: killed, made out of breath, 9
 09 **gaudium, -ī n.**: joy, 9
 09 **paene**: almost, nearly, 8
 09 **pater, patris, m.**: father, 12
 09 **paucī, -ae, -a**: few, 22
 09 **regiō, -ōnis f.**: region, district, 18
 09 **rēgnūm, -ī n.**: kingship; kingdom, reign, 19
 09 **salūs, -ūtis f.**: safety, health, security, 15
 09 **solvō, -ere, solvī, solūtum**: loosen, free; set sail; pay, 19
 09 **spēs, -eī f.**: hope, 15
 09 **uxor, uxōris f.**: wife, 10
 10 **cognōscō, -ere, -nōvī, -nitum**: learn, *pf.* know, 21
 10 **cōnferō, -ferre, contulī, collātum**: bring together, gather, 18
 10 **inveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventum**: find, discover, 8
 10 **nāvis, -is, f.**: ship, boat, 62
 10 **sed**: but, 31
 10 **trēs, tria**: three, 9
 11 **alius, -a, -ud**: other, another, else, 9
 11 **cāsus, -ūs m.**: misfortune, 8
 11 **conveniō, -īre, -vēnī**: convene, come together, 8
 11 **Graecia, -ae f.**: Greece, 7
 11 **inter**: between, among (acc.), 10
 11 **iste, ista, istud**: that or those (of yours), 7
 11 **nūntius, -ī m.**: messenger, 12
 11 **pars, partis, f.**: part, share, 23
 11 **redeō, -īre, redī**: go back, return, 18
 11 **urbs, urbis, f.**: city, 19
 12 **duo, duae, duo**: two, 10
 12 **Herculēs, -is m.**: Hercules, 120
 12 **itaque**: and so, 8
 12 **medius, -a, -um**: middle of, 10
 12 **nox, noctis, f.**: night, 7
 13 **interficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum**: kill, 15
 13 **mīrus, -a, -um**: wonderful, amazing, 7
 13 **mortuus, -a, -um**: dead, 7
 13 **vīs, vim, vī f.**: force, violence; *pl.* **vīrēs**, strength, 25
 13 **vōx, vōcis, f.**: voice, 9
 14 **centaurus, -ī m.**: centaur, 12
 14 **cōnsūmō, -ere, -mpsī, -mptum**: take, spend, 9
 14 **equus, -ī m.**: horse, 7
 14 **habeō, -ēre, -uī, -itum**: have, hold; consider, 35
 14 **nōn**: not, 40
 14 **paulus, -a, -um (adv. paulum)**: little, small, 16
 14 **suscipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptum**: undertake/take up, 14
 15 **alter, -era, -erum**: other (of two), second, 7
 15 **cōnātus, -ūs m.**: attempt, effort, 7
 15 **impōnō, -ere, -posuī, -positum**: place on, 7
 15 **iter, itineris n.**: journey; route, way, 19
 15 **vir, virī m.**: man, 22
 16 **bōs, bovis m/f (dat./abl. bōbus)**: cow, ox, bull, 18
 16 **postulō (1)**: demand, request, ask, 11
 16 **Thēbānī, -ōrum m.**: Theban, 7
 17 **cōpia, -ae f.**: abundance, supply; troops, 10
 17 **idōneus, -a, -um**: suitable, appropriate, 12
 17 **nōlō, nōlle, nōluī**: not...wish, be unwilling, 12
 17 **possum, posse, potuī**: be able, can, 46
 17 **proficiscor, -ī, -fectus sum**: set out, make forth, 19
 17 **sustineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentum**: hold up, endure, 7
 17 **vehementer**: strongly, violently, 11
 18 **recipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptum**: accept, take back, 8
 18 **redūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ctum**: lead/bring back, 11
 18 **silva, -ae f.**: woods, 7
 19 **doceō, -ēre, -uī, doctum**: teach, tell, 9
 20 **cōnficiō, -ere**: complete, finish; wear out, 16
 20 **Eurystheus, -ī m.**: Eurystheus, 23
 20 **labor, -ōris m.**: labor, hardship, task, 22
 21 **fāma, -ae f.**: fame, reputation, report, rumor, 7
 21 **mors, mortis, f.**: death, 9
 21 **nūllus, -a, -um**: no, not any, 24
 21 **vestis, -is f.**: clothing, 12
 22 **auxilium, -ī n.**: help, aid, assistance, 19
 22 **celer, -eris, -ere**: swift, quick, 13
 22 **coepī, -isse, coeptum**: begin, 16
 22 **deinde**: then, thereupon, 8
 22 **ignis, -is, m.**: fire, 9
 22 **ingēns, ingentis**: huge, immense, 21
 22 **sagitta, -ae f.**: arrow, 10
 23 **aureus, -a, -um**: golden, 13

- 23 **cursus, -ūs m.:** course, running, haste, 10
 23 **ita:** so, thus, in this way, 25
 23 **relinquō, -ere, -līquī, -lictum:** leave behind, 9
 24 **ager, -grī m.:** field, land, 11
 24 **difficultās, -tātis f.:** difficulty, 7
 24 **etsī:** even if, although, though, 13
 24 **incola, -ae m.:** inhabitant, 7
 24 **prōgredior, -ī, prōgressus sum:** advance, 17
 24 **summus, -a, -um:** highest, greatest, top of, 29
 25 **pōculum, -ī n.:** cup, 7
 25 **reliquus, -a, um:** remaining, left, 15
 25 **sī:** if, 20
 25 **spēlunca, -ae f.:** cave, 33
 25 **vīnum, -ī n.:** wine, 15
 26 **īdem, eadem, idem:** the same, 15
 26 **petō, -ere, petīvī, petītum:** seek; chase, hunt, 10
 26 **venēnum, -ī n.:** poison, 7
 27 **ēgredior, -ī, ēgressus sum:** go out, disembark, 18
 27 **membrum, -ī n.:** limb, member, 10
 27 **mīror, -ārī, -ātus sum:** be amazed at, 7
 27 **tam:** so, so much, so very, such, 8
 28 **ac:** and, 14
 28 **contrā:** against (acc.), 7
 28 **flūmen, -inis n.:** river, 15
 28 **magnitūdō, -tūdinis f.:** size, greatness, 13
 28 **mille (pl. milia):** thousand, 7
 28 **negōtium, ī n.:** task, business, occupation, 13
 28 **obtineō, -ēre, -uī, -tentum:** hold, maintain, 9
 28 **opus, -eris n.:** work, deed, toil, 9
 29 **numerus, -ī m.:** number, group, 7
 29 **ut:** so that, in order that (subj.); as, just as (ind.), 111
 30 **incolumis, -e:** untouched, uninjured, safe, 7
 30 **taurus, -ī m.:** bull, 7
 30 **terra, -ae f.:** land, earth, ground, 22
 30 **ventus, -ī m.:** wind, 10
 31 **anteā:** before, earlier, 7
 31 **nancīscor, -ī, nactus sum:** attain, meet, 7
 32 **Amāzonēs, -um f.:** Amazon, 7
 33 **persuādeō, -ēre, -āsī, -āsum:** persuade, 9
 34 **trānseō, -īre, -i(v)ī:** cross, go across, 10
 35 **antequam:** before, 9
 35 **mātūrō (1):** hasten, ripen, 7
 35 **socius, -ī m.:** comrade, companion; ally, 33
 36 **que:** and, 14
 37 **Trōia, -ae f.:** Troy, 9
 38 **intellegō, -ere, -xī, -ctum:** understand, realize, 24
 38 **praebeō, -ēre, -uī, -itum:** present, offer, 7
 39 **sōl, sōlis m.:** sun, 10
 40 **accidō, -ere, accidī:** happen, fall upon, 10
 40 **nihil:** nothing, 14
 40 **quidem:** indeed, in fact, assuredly, certainly, 8
 42 **nē:** so that...not, lest, 22
 43 **āmittō, -ere, -mīsī, -missum:** lose, let go, 7
 45 **auferō, -ferre, abstulī, -lātum:** carry away, 11
 45 **cōnor, -ārī, cōnātus sum:** try, attempt, 7
 45 **dracō, -ōnis m.:** dragon, serpent, 7
 45 **hortus, -ī m.:** garden, 7
 45 **pōmum, -ī n.:** apple, fruit, 9
 45 **porta, -ae f.:** gate, 7
 46 **Ātlās, -antis m.:** Atlas, 8
 47 **absum, -esse, āfuī:** be away, be absent, 7
 47 **fiō, fierī, factus sum:** become, be made, 9
 47 **sciō, -īre, -i(v)ī, -itum:** know, 9
 48 **passus, -ūs:** pace, 7
 49 **Orcus, -ī m.:** Orcus, underworld, 11
 50 **intrō (1):** go into, enter, 7
 50 **Mercurius, -ī m.:** Mercury, 8
 50 **ripa, -ae f.:** bank, 7
 54 **Nessus, -ī m.:** Nessus, 7
 55 **loquor, -ī, locūtus sum:** speak, address, 9
 55 **suspīcor, -ārī, -ātus sum:** suspect, 7
 57 **Iāsōn, -onis m.:** Jason, 44
 57 **Peliās, -ae f.:** Pelias, 14
 58 **respondeō, -ēre, -dī, -spōnsus sum:** answer, 12
 59 **Aeētēs:** Aeetes, king of Cochis, 10
 59 **vellus, velleris n.:** fleece, 12
 61 **arbitror, -ārī, -ātus sum:** judge, think, 11
 62 **Argonautae, -arum m.:** Argonauts, 18
 63 **ancora, -ae f.:** anchor, 7
 64 **Phīneus, -ī m.:** Phineus, 7
 64 **quīn:** nay (even), (but) that, 12
 65 **ferō, ferre, tulī, lātum:** carry, endure, 10
 66 **ēveniō, -īre:** turn out, happen, 8
 68 **Mēdēa, -ae f.:** Medea, 27
 81 **Graecus, -a, -um:** Greek, 14
 81 **patria, -ae f.:** fatherland, country, 8
 81 **Ulixēs, -is m.:** Ulysses, Odysseus, 43
 84 **Cyclōps, Cyclōpis m.:** Cyclops, 7
 84 **oculus, -ī, m.:** eye, 7
 85 **Polyphēmus, -ī m.:** Polyphemus, 18
 94 **Circē, -ēs f.:** Circe, 15

Abbreviations

abs.	absolute	gen.	genitive	pf.	perfect
acc.	accusative	imper.	imperative	pfw	place from which
act.	active	impers.	impersonal	plpf.	pluperfect
adj.	adjective	impf.	imperfect	pred.	predicate
adv.	adverb	ind.	indirect	pres.	present
app.	appositive	indic.	indicative	PPP	perfect passive pple.
comp.	comparative	inf.	infinitive	pple.	participle
dat.	dative	l. (ll.)	line (lines)	ptw	place to which
demon.	demonstrative	m.	masculine	s. sg.	singular
dep.	deponent	n.	neuter	subj.	subject, subjunctive
dir.	direct	nom.	nominative	superl.	superlative
disc.	discourse	obj.	object	voc.	vocative
f.	feminine	p. pl.	plural		
fut.	future	pass	passive		
1s, 2s, 3s	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd person singular			1p, 2p, 3p	1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd person plural

Well, when I did *Star Wars*, I consciously set about to recreate myths and the classic mythological motifs.
And I wanted to use those motifs to deal with issues that existed today.

- George Lucas

To make the ancients speak, we must feed them with our own blood.

- von Wilamowitz-Moellendorff

1. THE ARK

Haec narrantur ā poētīs dē Perseō. Perseus filius erat Iōvis, maximī 1
deōrum; avus eius Acrisius appellābātur. Acrisius volēbat Perseum
nepōtem suum necāre; nam propter ōrāculum puerum timēbat.
Comprehendit igitur Perseum adhūc īnfantem, et cum mātrem in arcā
lignēā inclūsit. Tum arcam ipsam in mare coniēcit. Danaē, Perseī 5
māter, magnopere territa est; tempestās enim magna mare turbābat.
Perseus autem in sinū māttris dormiēbat.

ā, ab, abs: from, away from; by, 72
Acrisius, -īī m.: Acrisius, 4
adhūc: still, 5
appellō (1): call (by name), name, 12
arca, -ae f.: chest, box, ark, 4
autem: however, but; moreover, 80
avus, -ī m.: grandfather, 2
comprehendō, -ere, -dī, -sum: grasp, seize, 3
coniciō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectum: throw, hurl; throw together, 13
cum: with (abl.); when, since, although, 196
Danaē, -ēs f.: Danae, 5
dē: from, down from; about, concerning, 29
deus, -ī m.: god, 19
dormiō, -īre, -īvī: sleep, 8
enim: for, indeed, 77
et: and; also, even, 284
filius, -īī m.: son, 10
hic, haec, hoc: this, that, these, 218
igitur: therefore, then, accordingly, 71
in: in (abl.), into (acc.), 271
inclūdō, -ere, -ūsī, -ūsum: enclose, close in, 7
īnfāns, -fantis m. f.: infant, 2
ipse, ipsa, ipsum: -self; the very, 50
is, ea, id: he, she, it; this, that, 224

Iuppiter, Iovis m.: Jupiter, 8
ligneus, -a, -um: wooden, of wood
magnopere: greatly, 15
magnus, -a, -um: great, large; important, 93
mare, -is n.: sea, 15
māter, māttris f.: mother, 9
nam: for, 6
nārrō (1): narrate, relate, 7
necō (1): kill, 9
nepōs, nepōtis m.: grandson, descendant, 2
ōrāculum, -ī n.: oracle, prophecy, 11
Perseus, -ī m.: Perseus, 26
poēta, -ae m.: poet, 4
propter: on account of, because of, 6
puer, -ī, m.: boy, 16
sinus, -ūs m.: bosom, lap
sum, esse, fuī, futūrum: be, 417
suus, -a, -um: his, her, its, their (own), 84
tempestās, -tātis f.: storm, tempest, weather, 17
terreō, -ēre, -uī, territum: terrify, scare, 5
timeō, -ēre, -uī: fear, be afraid of, 6
tum: then, at that time, 73
turbō (1): disturb, set in confusion, 2
volō, velle, voluī: want, wish, be willing, 23

- 1 **haec:** *these (things)*; neut. pl., add ‘things’
dē: *about..., concerning...*
Iōvis: *of Jupiter;* ‘of Jove,’ gen. sg. Iuppiter; all forms of Iuppiter’s name but the nominative come from the root Iov- (Jove) and are 3rd decl.: Iuppiter, Iōvis, Iōvī, Iōvem and Iōve
maximī: *the greatest...;* gen. in apposition to gen. sg. Iōvis; superlative of magnus
2 **eius:** *his;* gen. of possession, is, ea, id
Acrisius: nom. pred.: translate after the verb
appellābātur: *was called* + nom. pred.
3 **nepōtem suum:** acc. in apposition to Perseum; **suum:** *his (own)*; suus is a reflexive possessive adj. (his? her? its? their own?) and refers to the subject (‘su’ as in subject!), in this case, Acrisius
5 **arcam ipsam:** *the box itself;* ipse is an intensive

- pronoun that emphasizes the preceding noun
5 **in mare:** *into...;* acc. place to which, neut. sg.
Danaē: Greek nominative; the macron indicates that the final -ae is not a diphthong and that the two vowels are pronounced separately
6 **magnopere:** *greatly;* lit. ‘with great effort,’ (magnō opere), a common adv. for magnus
terrīta est: pf. pass. terreō
tempestās: nom. sg. fem. 3rd decl.
enim: *for...;* enim is a postpositive, ‘placed after,’ or second in the sentence. Translate as the first word in the sentence.
7 **sinū:** *lap, bosom;* sinus means ‘curve’ (cf. cosine and sine in math!) and here refers to the curve formed by the lap or bosom of Danae; 4th decl. abl. sg.

2. JUPITER SAVES HIS SON

Iuppiter tamen haec omnia vīdit, et filium suum servāre cōstituit. 1
Tranquillum igitur fēcit mare, et arcam ad īnsulam Serīphum
perdūxit. Huius īnsulae Polydectēs tum rēx erat. Postquam arca ad
lītus appulsa est, Danaē in harēnā quiētem capiēbat. Post breve
tempus ā piscātōre quōdam reperta est, et ad domum rēgis 5
Polydectis adducta est. Ille mātrem et puerum benignē excēpit, et
eīs sēdem tūtā in finibus suīs dedit. Danaē hoc dōnum libenter
accēpit, et prō tantō beneficiō rēgī grātiās ēgit.

accipiō, -ere, accēpī, -ptum: receive, accept, 26
ad: to, toward; near; for, 187
addūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ctum: lead to, bring, 8
agō, agere, ēgī, āctum: drive, lead, spend, 13
appellō, -ere, -pulī, -pulsum: drive (to), 14
arca, -ae f.: chest, box, ark, 4
beneficium, -ī n.: benefit, favor; kindness, 8
benignus, -a, -um: kind, 4
brevis, -e: short, brief, 15
capiō, -ere, cēpī, captum: take, capture, seize, 14
cōstituō, -ere, -uī, -ūtum: decide, establish, resolve, 36
Danaē, -ēs f.: Danae, 5
dō, dare, dedī, datum: give; grant, allow, 41
domus, -ūs f.: home, household, 11
dōnum, -ī n.: gift, 6
excipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptum: take out, receive, 9
faciō, -ere, fēcī, factum: make, do, 89
finis, -is m./f.: end; *pl.* border, territory, 12
grātia, -ae f.: gratitude, favor, thanks, 10
harēna, -ae f.: sand
ille, illa, illud: that, those, 84
īnsula, -ae f.: island, 20

- 1 **tamen:** *however, but;* tamen is a postpositive, ‘placed after’ or second in the sentence; in English you may place it first (‘but’) or second (‘however’) in the sentence
haec omnia: *all these (things);* neut. acc. pl., add ‘things’
suum: *his (own);* reflexive possessive adj. (‘su’ as in subject!)
- 2 **fēcit:** *made* (x) (y); pf. faciō governs a double acc. (acc. obj. and acc. pred.); tranquillum is a pred. adj.: in other words, do not translate as ‘tranquil sea’ but as ‘sea tranquil’
- 3 **huius īnsulae:** gen. sg. haec īnsula modifying rēx; -ius is a common gen. sg. pronoun ending
- 4 **appulsa est:** pf. pass. appellō, -ere, ‘drive,’ not

libenter: gladly, willingly, 12
lītus, lītoris n.: shore, beach, 18
omnis, -e: every, all, 96
perdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ctum: lead through, 4
piscātor, -is m.: fisherman
Polydectēs, -is m.: Polydectes, 7
post: after, behind (acc.); afterward, next, 32
postquam: after, when, 57
prō: before, in front of, for (abl.), 9
quīdam, quaedam, quoddam: a certain, 50
quiēs, quiētis f.: rest, sleep, 5
reperiō, -īre, repperī, repertum: find, 8
rēx, rēgis m.: king, 44
sēdēs, -is f.: seat; home, settlement, 6
Serīphus, -ī m.: Seriphos (an island)
servō (1): save, keep, preserve
tamen: nevertheless, however, 99
tantus, -a, -um: so great, so much, so large, 55
tempus, -poris n.: time, 33
tranquillus, -a, -um: calm, tranquil
tūtus, -a, -um: safe, secure, 3
videō, -ēre, vīdī, vīsum: see, 49

- the appellō, appellāre, ‘call by name’
quiētā capiēbat: *was taking a rest;* idiom
5 **quō-dam:** *a certain;* abl. sg. quīdam; the suffix -dam never changes but the first half of this indefinite adj. declines and modifies piscātore
6 **benignē:** *kindly;* -ē indicates an adv.
excēpit: *received;* i.e. welcomed; this verb is often used in the book for welcoming guests
7 **eīs:** *to them;* dat. pl. ind. obj. of is, ea, id
suīs: *his (own);* a reflexive possessive adj.
8 **prō:** *(in return) for...*
rēgī: dat. ind. obj. of 3rd decl. rēx
grātiās ēgit: agō grātiās is the common idiom for ‘give thanks,’ here with 3s pf. agō

3. PERSEUS IS SENT ON HIS TRAVELS

Perseus igitur multōs annōs ibi habitābat, et cum mātrem suā vītam 1
 beātam agēbat. At Polydectēs Danaēn magnopere amābat, atque
 eam in mātrimonium dūcere volēbat. Hoc tamen cōnsilium Perseō
 minimē grātum erat. Polydectēs igitur Perseum dīmittere cōstituit.
 Tum iuvenem ad sē vocāvit et haec dīxit: “Turpe est hanc ignāvam 5
 vītam agere; iam dūdum tū adulēscēns es. Quō ūsque hīc manēbis?
 Tempus est arma capere et virtūtem praestāre. Hinc abī, et caput
 Medūsae mihi refer.”

abeō, -īre, -iī, -itum: go away, depart, 6
adulēscēns, -entis: young (man), youth(ful), 3
amō (1): love, like
annus, -ī m.: year, 18
arma, -ōrum n.: arms, weapons, equipment, 6
at: but; mind you, 27
atque: and, 21
beātus, -a, -um: blessed, happy, 3
caput, capitis n.: head, 20
cōnsilium, -iī n.: plan, advice; council, 23
Danaē, -ēs f.: Danae, 5
dīcō, -ere, dīxī, dictum: say, tell, speak, 17
dīmittō, -ere, -mīsi, -missum: send away, dismiss;
 let go, 8
dūcō, -ere, dūxī, ductum: lead, draw, 6
dūdum: + iam, for a while, a long time, 2
ego, mihi, mē, mē: I, 9
grātus, -a, -um: pleasing, grateful
habitō (1): inhabit, live, 17
hīc: here, 5
hinc: from here, hence

iam: now, already, 31
ibi: there, 21
ignāvus, -a, -um: lazy, cowardly, 2
iuvenis, -is m.: youth, young man, 4
maneō, -ēre, mānsī: stay, wait, 9
mātrimonium, -iī n.: marriage, 6
Medūsa, -ae f.: Medusa, 6
minimē: least, by no means, not at all
multus, -a, -um: much, many, 36
praestō, -stāre, -stīti: set before, show, 4
quī, quae, quod (quis? quid?): who, which, that;
quod: because, 345
referō, -ferre, rettulī, relātum: report, bring back,
 17
sē: himself, herself, itself, themselves, 115
tū, tibi, tē, tē: you, 10
turpis, -e: shameful, ugly
ūsque: up to, 2
virtūs, -ūtis f.: courage, manliness, excellence, 10
vīta, -ae, f.: life, 9
vocō (1): call, 2

1 **multōs annōs:** *for...*; acc. of duration
 2 **agēbat:** *was spending, was living;* agō vītam is a
 common idiom for ‘spend life’ or ‘live life’
Danaēn: Greek acc. sg.
 3 **in mātrimonium dūcere:** *to lead into marriage;*
 this is the common idiom for a male to ‘marry’
 in Latin; when a female is the subject, the
 expression is nubēre, ‘to put on the veil’ is used
tamen: *however, but;* postpositive: translate as
 first (‘but’) or second (‘however’) in English
Perseō: *to...*; dat. of interest with grātum
 4 **minimē:** *least;* superlative adv. of parvus
 5 **igitur:** *therefore;* another postpositive: translate
 as first or second word in English
ad sē: *to himself;* i.e. Polydectes; a reflexive
 pronoun refers to the subject (‘s’ as in subject!)
haec: *these (things);* neut. acc. pl., add ‘things’
Turpe est: *it is shameful to...*; the 3rd decl. neut.
 sg. adj. modifies the inf. (neuter), which is the

logical subject of the sentence
 6 **agere:** *to live;* idiom, see note for line 2
iam dūdum: *now for a long time*
es: 2s pres. sum
quō (cōnsiliō): *for what (purpose)...?, for what
 (plan)...?*
hīc: *here;* the long vowel ‘ī’ indicates that this is
 the adverb and not the pronoun hic, ‘this one’
 7 **Tempus est:** *it is time to...*; infs. are subject;
 ‘arma capere’ is a common idiom for ‘take up
 arms/weapons’
hinc: *from here;* adv.
abī: sg. imperative ab-eō
 8 **mihi:** dat. ind. obj., egō
refer: sg. imperative, referō; Consider the
 following mnemonic for verbs which do not
 have a stem vowel in the imperative: ‘dīc, dūc,
 fac and fer should have an “e” but it isn’t there.’

4. PERSEUS GETS HIS OUTFIT

Perseus ubi haec audīvit, ex īnsulā discessit, et postquam ad 1
continentem vēnit, Medūsam quaesīvit. Diū frūstrā quaerēbat;
namque nātūram locī ignorābat. Tandem Apollō et Minerva viam
dēmōnstrāvērunt. Prīmum ad Graeās, sorōrēs Medūsae, pervēnit.
Ab hīs tālāria et galeam magicam accēpit. Apollō autem et 5
Minerva falcem et speculum eī dedērunt.

Tum postquam tālāria pedibus induit, in āera ascendit. Diū per āera
volābat; tandem tamen ad eum locum vēnit ubi Medūsa cum cēterīs
Gorgonibus habitābat. Gorgonēs autem mōnstra erant speciē horribilī;
capita enim eārum anguibus omnīnō contēcta erant. Manūs etiam ex 10
aere factae erant.

āer, āeris m. (acc. āera): air, 5
aes, aeris n.: bronze, 2
anguis, -is m. f.: serpent, snake
Apollō, Apollinis m.: Apollo, 7
ascendō, -ere, -ī, -nsum: ascend, mount, 3
audiō, -īre, -īvī, -ītum: hear, listen to, 22
cēterī, -ae, -a: others, remaining, 2
contegō, -ere, -tēxī, -tēctum: cover
continēns, -entis f.: continent, 2
dēmōnstrō (1): show, demonstrate, 13
discēdō, -ere, -cessī, -sum: go away, depart, 4
diū: for a long time, long, for long, 12
ē, ex: from, out from, out of, 106
etiam: also, even, 17
falx, falcis f.: sickle, 2
frūstrā: in vain, 12
galea, -ae f.: helmet, 3
Gorgō, -onis f.: Gorgon, 4
Graeae, -ārum f.: the Gray sisters, the Graeae
horribilis, -e: horrible, 11
ignōrō (1): not know, be ignorant, 5
induō, -ere, -uī, indūtum: put on, 8
locus, -ī m. (pl. lōca): place, region, 51

magicus, -a, -um: magic, 5
manus, -ūs f.: hand, 16
Medūsa, -ae f.: Medusa, 6
Minerva, -ae f.: Minerva, 4
mōnstrō (1): show, demonstrate, 3
namque: for, 2
nātūra, -ae f.: nature, 7
omnīnō: altogether, wholly, entirely, 11
per: through, over, 23
perveniō, -īre, -vēnī: come through, arrive, 19
pēs, pedis m.: foot, 8
prīmus, -a, -um: first, 16
quaerō, -ere, -sīvī, -sītum: search for, ask, 20
soror, -is f.: sister
speciēs, -ēī f.: sight, look, appearance, aspect, 13
speculum, -ī n.: mirror, 3
tālāria, -ium: winged shoes, 4
tandem: finally, at last, 27
ubi: where; when, 55
veniō, -īre, vēnī, ventum: come, go, 72
via, -ae, f.: way, road, 4
volō (1): fly, 3

1 **haec:** *these (things)*; neut. acc. pl.
2 **continentem:** i.e. mainland Greece; Perseus has been on the island of Seriphos off of Greece
4 **Prīmum:** *first (of all)*; adverbial acc.
ad Graeās: these three sisters of Medusa have one eye, which they share and use in turn; In a popular version of the myth, Perseus steals the eye until they reveal to him where Medusa is
sorōrēs: acc. in apposition to Graeās
5 **Ab hīs:** *from these*; i.e. Graeae
autem: *moreover*; a common postpositive that can mean ‘moreover’ or very often ‘however,’ translate as the first or second word in English

6 **eī:** *to him*; dat. ind. obj. of is, ea, id
7 **pedibus:** *on...*; dat. of compound verb is often found in poetry: take the prefix from the verb (in-) and turn it into a preposition for the dative noun in English
in āera: *into...*; Greek acc. sg., place to which
8 **eum locum:** *that place*; eum is a demon. adj.
9 **speciē horribilī:** *of horrible appearance*; abl. of quality with monstra, 3rd decl. i-stem abl.
10 **eārum:** *their*; i.e. the fem. pl. Gorgonēs
contēcta erant...factae erant: *had been...*; 3p plpf. pass. contegō and faciō
11 **aere:** *with bronze*; abl. sg. of aes, not āer

5. THE GORGON'S HEAD

Rēs difficillima erat caput Gorgonis abscīdere; eius enim cōspectū 1
hominēs in saxum vertēbantur. Propter hanc causam Minerva
speculum Perseō dederat. Ille igitur tergum vertit, et in speculum
inspiciēbat; hōc modō ad locum vēnit ubi Medūsa dormiēbat. Tum
falce suā caput eius ūnō ictū abscīdit. Cēterae Gorgonēs statim ē 5
sommnō excitātae sunt, et ubi rem vīdērunt, īrā commōtae sunt.
Arma rapuērunt, et Perseum occīdere volēbant. Ille autem dum
fūgit, galeam magicam induit; et ubi hoc fēcit, statim ē cōspectū eārum
ēvāsīt.

abscīdō, -ere, -cīdī, -cīsum: cut away or off, 5

arma, -ōrum n.: arms, weapons, equipment, 6

causa, -ae f.: reason, cause, 31

cēterī, -ae, -a: others, remaining, 2

commoveō, -ēre, -mōvī, -mōtum: move, upset, 14

cōspectus, -ūs m.: sight, view, 6

difficilis, -e: hard, difficult, 6

dum: while, as long as, until, 35

ēvādō, -ere, ēvāsī, ēvāsūm: go out, escape, 10

excitō (1): excite, wake up, 8

falx, falcis f.: sickle, 2

fugiō, -ere, fūgī: flee, hurry away, 9

galea, -ae f.: helmet, 3

Gorgō, -onis f.: Gorgon, 4

homō, -inis m./f.: person, people, human, 21

ictus, -ūs m.: strike, blow, 4

inspiciō, -ere, -spexī, -spectum: look upon

īra, -ae f.: anger, 12

magicus, -a, -um: magic, 5

Medūsa, -ae f.: Medusa, 6

Minerva, -ae f.: Minerva, 4

modus, -ī m.: way, manner; *adv. modo*, only, 38

occīdō, -ere, -cīdī, -cīsum: kill, cut down, 14

propter: on account of, because of, 6

rapiō, -ere, rapuī, raptum: seize, snatch, 5

rēs, reī, f.: thing, matter, affair, business, 83

saxum, -ī n.: rock, 15

somnus, -ī m.: sleep, 14

speculum, -ī n.: mirror, 3

statim: immediately, 28

tergum, -ī n.: back (body part), hide, 8

ūnus, -a, -um: one, 14

vertō, -ere, vertī, versum: turn, 5

1 **Rēs difficillima est:** *it is a very difficult matter to...*; superlative *difficilis* modifying the nom.

pred. *rēs*; the inf. *is* is the logical subject

eius: *of her*; or 'her,' objective gen. sg. of *is*, ea, id modifying *cōspectū*; humans have to look at her in order to be changed

cōspectū: *by...*; abl. of cause or means

2 **in saxum:** *into...*

vertēbantur: i.e. are changed; the verb *vertō*, 'turn' can often mean 'change'

3 **Perseō:** *to...*; dat. inf. obj.

dederat: plpf. *dō*, dare

Ille: *that (one)*; i.e. Perseus

4 **hōc modō:** *in this way*; abl. of manner

ubi: *when...*; i.e. 'at this point' in time or place

5 **falce suā:** *with...*; abl. of means; *suā* is another reflexive possessive adj. ('su' as in subject!) referring to Perseus

eius: *her*; gen. pl. referring to Medusa and modifying *caput*

ūnō ictū: abl. of means

6 **excitātae sunt:** pf. pass. *excitō*, 'wake up'

ubi: *when...*; i.e. 'at this point' in time or place

īrā: *by...*; abl. of cause

commōtae sunt: *were moved*; i.e. emotionally

7 **Arma rapuērunt:** *rapere arma* is an idiom for taking up arms/weapons in preparation to fight

Ille autem dum...: *however, while that (one)...*;

i.e. Perseus; Latin places the nom. subj. before the subordinate *dum* or *cum* to indicate that the nom. is subject of both the subordinate clause and the main clause

8 **ubi:** *when...*; i.e. 'at this point' in time or place

hoc: *this (thing)*; neut. acc. sg., add 'thing'

eārum: *their*; gen. pl. *is*, ea, id

6. THE SEA-SERPENT

Post haec Perseus in finēs Aethiopum vēnit. Ibi Cēpheus quīdam 1
illō tempore regnābat. Hic Neptūnum, maris deum, ōlim
offenderat; Neptūnus autem mōnstrum saevissimum mīserat. Hoc
cotīdiē ē marī veniēbat et hominēs dēvorābat. Ob hanc causam
pavor animōs omnium occupāverat. Cēpheus igitur ōrāculum deī 5
Hammōnis cōnsuluit, atque ā deō iussus est filiam mōnstrō trādere.
Eius autem filia, nōmine Andromeda, virgō fōrmōsissima erat.
Cēpheus ubi haec audīvit, magnum dolōrem percēpit. Volēbat
tamen cīvēs suōs ē tantō periculō extrahere, atque ob eam causam
imperāta Hammōnis facere cōstituit. 10

Aethiopēs, -um m.: Ethiopians, 2
Andromeda, -ae f.: Andromeda, 4
animus, -ī m.: mind, attention, spirit; courage, 18
Cēpheus, -ī m.: Cepheus, 5
cīvis, -is m/f: citizen, 5
cōnsulō, -ere, -luī, -ltum: consult, 3
cotīdiē: daily, 2
dēvorō (1): swallow down, devour, 4
dolor, -ōris m.: pain, grief, 16
extrahō, -ere, -trāxī, -tractum: draw out, 2
filia, -iae f.: daughter, 20
fōrmōsus, -a, -um: shapely, beautiful, 2
Hammōn, -ōnis m.: Hammon (Jupiter), 2
imperō (1): order, command, 13
iubeō, -ēre, iussī, iussum: order, 17
mittō, -ere, -mīsī, missum: send, let go, 18

mōnstrum, -ī n.: monster, 26
Neptūnus, -ī m.: Neptune, 4
nōmen, nōminis, n.: name, 12
ob: on account of (acc.), 13
occupō (1): occupy, seize, 8
offendō, -ere, offendī, offēsum: offend
ōlim: once (upon a time), formerly, 10
pavor, -is m.: panic
percipiō, -ere, -cēpī, -ceptum: perceive, feel, 5
periculum, -ī n.: danger, risk, 31
regnō (1): rule, reign, 3
saevus, -a, -um: savage, fierce, 3
trādō, -ere, -didī, -ditum: give/hand over or down, 20
virgō, virginis f.: young woman, maiden, 2

1 **haec:** *these (things)*; neut. acc. pl. obj. of post
in finēs: *into the borders*; ‘into the ends’
quīdam: *a certain*; -dam does not change but
quī-, quae-, quod- does decline and here agrees
with nom. masc. sg. Cēpheus
2 **illō tempore:** *at...;* abl. of time when
Hic: *this (one)*; i.e. Cepheus
maris deum: acc. in apposition to Neptūnum
and 3rd decl. gen. sg.
3 **saevissimum:** superlative adj. saevus
mīserat: plpf. mittō
Hoc: *this one*; neut. nom. sg.; i.e. the monster
4 **ē marī:** marī is a 3rd decl. i-stem abl. from mare,
maris (the form ‘mare’ is nom./acc. and not abl.)
ob eam causam: *for this reason*
5 **omnium:** *of everyone*; ‘of all,’ gen. pl. 3rd decl.
i-stem often translated as ‘everyone’ in English
deī Hammōnis: gen. sg; a North African god

often identified with Jupiter/Zeus, and translated
as ‘Hammon or ‘Ammon’
6 **mōnstrō:** *to...;* dat. ind. obj.
7 **eius:** *his*; i.e. Cepheus’; gen. sg. of is, ea, id
nōmine: *by name*; abl. of respect
virgō: nom. sg. pred.: translate after the verb
fōrmōsissima: superlative adj. fōrmus
8 **Cēpheus ubi:** *When Cepheus...;* when Romans
put the nom. subj. before ubi, they indicate that
the nom. is subject of the subordinate clause and
main clause
haec: *these (things)*; neut. acc. pl.
9 **suōs:** *his own*; reflexive possessive adj. (‘su’ as
in subject!)
ob eam causam: *for this reason*
10 **imperāta:** *commands*; ‘(things) having been
commanded,’ this neut. acc. pl. PPP imperō is
used as a substantive (noun)

7. A HUMAN SACRIFICE

Tum rēx diem certam dīxit et omnia parāvit. Ubi ea diēs vēnit, 1
Andromeda ad lītus dēducta est, et in cōnspectū omnium ad rūpem
alligāta est. Omnēs fātum eius dēplōrābant, nec lacrimās tenēbant.
At subitō, dum mōnstrum exspectant, Perseus accurrit; et ubi
lacrimās vīdit, causam dolōris quaerit. Illī rem tōtam expōnunt et 5
puellam dēmōnstrant. Dum haec geruntur, fremitus terribilis
audītur; simul mōnstrum horribilī speciē procul cōspicitur. Eius
cōnspectus timōrem maximum omnibus iniēcit. Mōnstrum magnā
celeritāte ad lītus contendit, iamque ad locum appropinquābat ubi
puella stābat. 10

accurrō, -ere, -cucurrī: run up, 2
alligō (1): tie or bind to, 2
Andromeda, -ae f.: Andromeda, 4
appropinquō (1): come near, approach, 8
celeritās, -tātis f.: speed, quickness, 7
certus, -a, -um: fixed, sure, 11
cōnspectus, -ūs m.: sight, view, 6
cōspiciō, -ere, -exī, -ectum: catch sight of, 3
contendō, -ere, -ī, -tum: hasten, strive, fight, 11
dēdūcō, -ere: lead or bring down, launch, 10
dēplōrō (1): lament, weep
diēs, -ēi m./f.: day, time, 46
expōnō, -ere, -suī, -situm: set out, explain, 7
exspectō (1): wait for, await, look out for, 15
fātum, -ī n.: fate, ruin, death, 2
fremitus, -ūs m.: roaring, roar, 2

gerō, -ere, gessī, gestum: wage; carry on, wear, 18
iniēcō, -ere, -iēcī, -iectum: throw in or upon, 2
lacrima, -ae f.: tear, 10
nec: and not, nor, 10
parō (1): prepare, 21
procul: far, from afar; **procul ab,** far from, 5
puella, -ae f.: girl, 8
rūpēs, -is f.: rock, cliff, 6
simul: at the same time; **simul ac,** at the same time
as, 10
stō, -āre, steti, stātum: stand, 8
subitō: suddenly, 19
teneō, -ēre, tenuī, tentum: hold, keep, 13
terribilis, -e: terrible, 5
timor, -ōris m.: fear, 15
tōtus -a, -um: whole, entire, 14

- 1 **diem certam dīxit:** *set a certain day*; lit. ‘said a certain day’ an idiom for setting an appointment
omnia: *everything*; ‘all things’ neut. pl. acc. (i-stem); translate in English idiom as ‘everything’
2 **ubi:** *when...*
ea: *this*; here, a demonstrative adj. that can be translated as ‘this/these’ or ‘that/those’
omnium: *of everyone*; ‘of all,’ nom. gen. pl. (i-stem), translate in English as ‘everyone’
3 **omnēs:** *everyone*; ‘all,’ see above
eius: *her*; gen. fem. sg. is, ea, id
5 **Illī:** *those*; nom. pl., i.e. the omnēs from above
expōnunt: *explain*; ‘set out (in detail)’
6 **haec:** *these (things)*; neut. nom. pl., add ‘things’

- 7 **horribilī speciē:** *of horrible appearance*; abl. of quality with monstrum, 3rd decl. i-stem abl. sg.
eius cōnspectus: *the sight of it*; eius is an objective gen. sg. (i.e. sees it) of is, ea, id
8 **maximum:** superlative magnus
omnibus: *in everyone*; ‘in all’; dat. of compound verb: take off the prefix from the verb and make it the preposition of the dat. noun
magnā celeritāte: *with...*; abl. of manner; when there is an adj. the preposition ‘cum’ is often omitted (‘cum celeritāte’ but ‘magnā celeritāte’)
9 **iamque:** et iam
ubi: *where*

8. THE RESCUE

At Perseus ubi haec vīdit, gladium suum ēdūxit, et postquam tālāria 1
induit, in āera sublātus est. Tum dēsUPER in mōnstrum impetum
subitō fēcit, et gladiō suō collum eius graviter vulnerāvit.
Mōnstrum ubi sēnsit vulnus, fremitum horribilem ēdidit, et sine
morā tōtum corpus in aquam mersit. Perseus dum circum lītus 5
volat, reditum eius expectābat. Mare autem intereā undique
sanguine īnficitur. Post breve tempus belua rūrsus caput sustulit;
mox tamen ā Perseō ictū graviōre vulnerāta est. Tum iterum sē in
undās mersit, neque postea vīsa est.

āer, āeris m. (acc. āera): air, 5

aqua, -ae f.: water, 11

belua, -ae f.: beast, brute

circum: around (acc.)

collum, -ī n.: neck, 6

corpus, corporis, n.: body, 19

dēsUPER: from above, 2

ēdō, -ere, ēdidī, ēditum: give out, put forth, 3

ēdūcō, -ere, -dūxī, -ductum: lead out, draw, 3

fremitus, -ūs m.: roaring, roar, 2

gladius, -ī m.: sword, 10

gravis, -e: heavy, serious, severe, 16

ictus, -ūs m.: strike, blow, 4

impetus, -ūs m.: attack, assault, 9

īnficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum: stain, dye; infect, 4

intereā: meanwhile, 7

iterum: again, 3

mergō, -ere, mersī, mersum: sink, 3

mora, -ae f.: delay, hesitation, 14

mox: soon, 19

neque: and not; **neque...neque:** neither...nor, 27

postea: after this, afterwards, 7

reditus, -ūs m.: return, 5

rūrsus: again, backward, back, 7

sanguis, sanguinis m.: blood, 6

sentīō, -īre, sēnsī, sēnsus: feel, perceive, 15

sine: without, 19

tālāria, -ium: winged shoes, 4

tollō, -ere, sustulī, sublātum: raise, lift up, 10

unda, -ae f.: wave

undique: from everywhere, from all sides, 7

volō (1): fly, 3

vulnerō (1): wound, 7

vulnus, -eris n.: wound, 6

1 **Perseus ubi...:** *when Perseus...*; Romans place the nom. subj. before ubi to indicate that the nom. is the subject of the subordinate clause and the main verb

haec: *these (things)*; neut. acc. pl., add 'things'

suum: *his (own)*; reflexive possessive adj.

2 **in āera:** *into...*; acc. place to which; Greek acc.

sublātus est: 3s pf. pass. tollō, 'lift' or 'carry up (from under),' tollō borrows its 3rd and 4th principal parts from fērō

in mōnstrum: *against...*; acc. place to which

impetum...fēcit: facere impetum is a common idiom for 'make an attack'

3 **suō:** reflexive possessive adj. see note line 1

eius: *his*; i.e. the monster's, gen. sg.

4 **Mōnstrum ubi...:** *when the monster...*; see note

for line 1

vulnus: 3rd decl. neut. acc. sg.

5 **corpus:** 3rd decl. neut. acc. sg. modified by neut. adj. tōtum

Perseus dum...: *while Perseus...*; see note line 1

circum lītus: *around the shore*; lītus is 3rd decl. neut. sg. object

6 **eius:** *its*; i.e. the monster's

7 **sanguine:** abl. of means

Post breve tempus: *after...*; tempus is 3rd decl. neut. sg. modified by neut. acc. breve

7 **sustulit:** pf. tollō; caput is neut. acc.

8 **ictū graviōre:** abl. of means; with comparative adj. grāvis, 'serious' or 'heavy'

sē: *himself, itself*; reflexive pronoun ('s' as in subject!)

9. THE REWARD OF VALOR

Perseus postquam ad lītus dēscendit, p̄imum tālāria exuit; tum ad 1
rūpem vēnit ubi Andromeda vīncta erat. Ea autem omnem spem
salūtis dēposuerat, et ubi Perseus adiit, terrōre paene exanimāta
erat. Ille vincula statim solvit, et puellam patrī reddidit. Cēpheus ob
hanc rem maximō gaudiō affectus est. Meritam grātam prō tantō 5
beneficiō Perseō rettulit; praetereā Andromedam ipsam eī in
mātrimōnium dedit. Ille libenter hoc dōnum accēpit et puellam
dūxit. Paucōs annōs cum uxōre suā in eā regiōne habitābat, et in
magnō honōre erat apud omnēs Aethiopēs. Magnopere tamen
mātre[m] suam rūrsus vidēre cupiēbat. Tandem igitur cum uxōre suā 10
ē rēgnō Cēpheī discessit.

adeō, -īre, -ī: go to, approach, 4
Aethiopēs, -um m.: Ethiopians, 2
afficiō, -ere, -fēcī, -fectum: afflict, affect, 12
Andromeda, -ae f.: Andromeda, 4
apud: among, at the house of, before (acc.), 9
Cēpheus, -ī m.: Cepheus, 5
cupiō, -ere, -īvī: desire, long for, 4
dēpōnō, -ere, -suī, -situm: put down/aside, 9
dēscendō, -ere, -ndī, -scēsum: descend, 4
discēdō, -ere, -cessī, -sum: go away, depart, 4
dōnum, -ī n.: gift, 6
dūcō, -ere, dūxī, ductum: lead, draw, 6
exanimātus, -a, -um: killed, lifeless, 9
exuō, -ere, -uī, -ūtum: take off, put off
gaudium, -ī n.: joy, 9
honor, -ōris m.: honor, glory; offering, 4
mātrimōnium, -ī n.: marriage, 6
meritus, -a, -um: deserved, due, just, 4

1 **p̄imum:** *first (of all)*; adverbial acc.
2 **ea:** *she*
3 **salūtis:** objective gen. sg. salūs
adiit: pf. ad-eō
terrōre: *by...*; abl. of cause
4 **ille:** *that (one)*; i.e. Perseus, nom. subj.
patrī: to...; dat. ind. obj.
reddidit: pf. red-dō, 'give back'
ob hanc rem: *because of...*
5 **maximō gaudiō:** *with...*; abl. of cause with
the superlative of magnus
prō: *(in return) for...*

paene: almost, nearly, 8
pater, patris, m.: father, 12
paucī, -ae, -a: few, 22
praetereā: besides, moreover, 3
reddō, -ere, -didī, -ditum: give back, render, 4
regiō, -ōnis f.: region, district, 18
rēgnum, -ī n.: kingship; kingdom, reign, 19
rūpēs, -is f.: rock, cliff, 6
salūs, -ūtis f.: safety, health, security, 15
solvō, -ere, solvī, solūtum: loosen, free; set sail;
pay, 19
spēs, -eī f.: hope, 15
tālāria, -ium: winged shoes, 4
terror, -is m.: terror, fright, 4
uxor, uxōris f.: wife, 10
vīnciō, -īre, vīnxī, vīnctum: bind, tie, 4
vinculum, -ī n.: chains, 3

6 **Perseō:** *to...*; dat. ind. obj.
rettulit: pf. referō
Andromedam ipsam: Andromeda herself;
ipsam is an intensive pronoun
eī: *to him*; i.e. to Perseus, dat. sg., *is, ea, id*
7 **ille:** *that (one)*; i.e. Perseus, nom. subj.
8 **paucōs annōs:** *for...*; acc. of duration
suā: *his (own)*; reflexive possessive adj.
eā: *that*; demonstrative adj.
9 **apud:** *among...*
10 **suam:** *his (own)*; reflexive possessive adj.
suā: *his (own)*; reflexive possessive adj.

10. POLYDECTES IS TURNED TO STONE

Postquam Perseus ad ĩnsulam nāvem appulit, sē ad locum contulit 1
ubi māter ōlim habitāverat, sed domum invēnit vacuam et omnīnō
dēsertam. Trēs diēs per tōtam ĩnsulam mātrem quaerēbat; tandem
quartō diē ad templum Diānae pervēnit. Hūc Danaē refūgerat, quod
Polydectem timēbat. Perseus ubi haec cognōvit, ĩrā magnā 5
commōtus est; ad rēgiam Polydectis sine morā contendit, et ubi eō
vēnit, statim in ātrium irrūpit. Polydectēs magnō timōre affectus est
et fugere volēbat. Dum tamen ille fūgit, Perseus caput Medūsae
mōnstrāvit; ille autem simul atque hoc vīdit, in saxum versus est.

ātrium, -ī n.: atrium, 3

cognōscō, -ere, -nōvī, -nitum: learn, *pf.* know, 21
cōnferō, -ferre, contulī, collātum: bring together,
gather, 18

Danaē, -ēs f.: Danae, 5

dēsērō, -ere, -uī, -sertum: desert, 2

Diāna, -ae f.: Diana

hūc: to here, hither, 2

inveniō, -īre, -vēnī, -ventum: find, discover, 8

irrumpō, -ere, -rūpī, -ruptum: burst in, 2

Medūsa, -ae f.: Medusa, 6

mōnstrō (1): show, demonstrate, 3

nāvis, -is, f.: ship, boat, 62

quartus, -a, -um: fourth, 3

refugiō, -ere, -fūgī: flee back, 5

rēgia, -ae f.: palace, 4

sed: but, 31

templum, -ī n.: temple, 3

timeō, -ēre, -uī: fear, be afraid of, 6

trēs, tria: three, 9

vacuus, -a, -um: empty

vertō, -ere, vertī, versum: turn, 5

1 **appulit:** *pf.* appellō, ‘drive to’

sē contulit: *carried himself;* *pf.* cōnferō, a
common idiom for ‘went’ or ‘moved’

2 **vacuam...dēsertam:** modifying fem. sg. domum

3 **trēs diēs:** *for...*; acc. of duration

4 **quartō diē:** *at...*; abl. of time when

quod: *because...*

5 **Perseus ubi...:** *when Perseus...*; Romans place
the nom. subj. before ubi to indicate that the
nom. is the subject of the subordinate clause and
the main verb

haec: *these (things);* neut. acc. pl., add ‘things’

īrā magnā: *by...*; abl. of cause

6 **commōtus est:** *was moved;* i.e. emotionally
contendit: *hurried;* lit. ‘strove’ or ‘stretch
towards’

ubi: *when*

eō: *(to) there;* adv.; ibi is ‘there,’ inde is ‘from
there,’ and eō is ‘to there’

7 **magnō timōre:** *by...*; abl. of cause

8 **ille:** *that (one);* i.e. Polydectes

9 **ille:** *that (one);* i.e. Polydectes

simul atque: *as soon as;* ‘at the same time
as’

hoc: *this (thing);* neut. acc. sg.

II. THE ORACLE FULFILLED

Post haec Perseus cum uxore suā ad urbem Acrisī rediit. Ille autem 1
ubi Perseum vīdit, magnō terrōre affectus est; nam propter
ōrāculum istud nepōtem suum adhūc timēbat. In Thessaliam igitur
ad urbem Larīsam statim refūgit, frūstrā tamen; neque enim fātum
suum vītāvit. Post paucōs annōs rēx Larīsae lūdōs magnōs fēcit; 5
nuntiōs in omnēs partēs dīmiserat et diem ēdixerat. Multī ex
omnibus urbibus Graeciae ad lūdōs convēnērunt. Ipse Perseus inter
aliōs certāmen discōrum iniit. At dum discum conicit, avum suum
cāsū occīdit; Acrisius enim inter spectātōrēs eius certāminis forte
stābat. 10

Acrisius, -ī m.: Acrisius, 4
adhūc: still, 5
alius, -a, -ud: other, another, else, 9
avus, -ī m.: grandfather, 2
cāsus, -ūs m.: misfortune, 8
certāmen, -minis n.: contest, 2
conveniō, -īre, -vēnī: convene, come together, 8
discus, -ī m.: discus, 2
ēdicō, -ere, -xī, -dictum: declare, proclaim, 4
fātum, -ī n.: fate; death, 2
fors, fortis f.: luck, chance; *forte* by chance, 2
Graecia, -ae f.: Greece, 7
ineō, -īre, -ī, -itum: go into, enter, 4
inter: between, among (acc.), 10
iste, ista, istud: that or those (of yours), 7

1 **haec:** *these (things)*; neut. acc. pl. obj. of post
suā: *his (own)*; reflexive possessive adj.
rediit: pf. red-eō
ille...ubi: *when that (one)...*; Romans place the
nom. subj. before ubi when the nom. is the
subject of the subordinate verb and the main
verb
2 **magnō terrōre:** abl. of means
3 **istud:** *that*; neut. sg. with ōrāculum (cf. illud)
suum: *his (own)*; i.e. Acrisius'; reflexive
possessive adj.
4 **frustrā:** adv.
neque enim: *for...not*
5 **suum:** *his (own)*; reflexive possessive adj.
fēcit: *produced*; i.e. organized

Larīsa, -ae f.: Larisa (town), 2
lūdus, -ī m.: game, sport; school, 2
nam: for, 6
nepōs, nepōtis m.: grandson, descendant, 2
nūntius, -ī m.: messenger, 12
pars, partis, f.: part, share, 23
propter: on account of, because of, 6
redeō, -īre, redī: go back, return, 18
refugiō, -ere, -fūgī: flee back, 5
spectātor, -tōris m.: spectator
terror, -is m.: terror, fright, 4
Thessalia, -ae f.: Thessaly, 4
timeō, -ēre, -uī: fear, be afraid of, 6
urbs, urbis, f.: city, 19
vītō (1): avoid, 2

6 **in omnēs partēs:** *in all directions*
ēdixerat: *had appointed, had set*
7 **ad:** *for...*; ad + acc. expressing purpose
Ipse Perseus: *Perseus himself*; intensive
pronoun
8 **certāmen discōrum:** i.e. a discus-throwing
contest to see who can throw the farthest
iniit: pf. in-eō
suum: *his (own)*; reflexive possessive adj.
9 **cāsū:** *by chance*; 4th decl. abl. of manner
eius certāminis: *of that...*; gen. sg. eius is here a
demonstrative adj. modifying certāminis
forte: *by chance*; a common abl. as adverb from
the noun fōrs, fortis